



## General Assembly

Distr.: General  
2 October 2007

Sixty-first session  
Agenda item 11

### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

*[without reference to a Main Committee (A/61/L.68)]*

#### **61/293. Prevention of armed conflict**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003,

*Bearing in mind* its responsibilities, functions and powers under the Charter of the United Nations, in particular with respect to matters related to the prevention of armed conflict,

*Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Prevention of armed conflict".

*107th plenary meeting  
13 September 2007*



## General Assembly

Distr.: General  
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Sixty-first session  
Agenda item 15

### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/61/L.66 and Add.1)]

#### 61/294. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, in which the Atlantic Ocean, in the region situated between Africa and South America, was solemnly declared a zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

*Recalling also* its subsequent resolutions on the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

*Reaffirming* that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable, and considering that cooperation among States, in particular those of the region, for peace and development is essential for the promotion of the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the purposes and objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a basis for the promotion of cooperation among the countries of the region,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts of Member States towards fulfilling the goals of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and their engagement in its revitalization by, among other actions, holding thematic workshops in the framework of the Luanda Initiative, as a preparatory process of the sixth ministerial meeting of the zone, held in Luanda, on 18 and 19 June 2007,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, in which it urged States of the region to continue their actions aimed at fulfilling the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic, especially through the implementation of specific programmes,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>1</sup>

1. *Stresses* the role of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a forum for increased interaction among its member States, and acknowledges the valuable contribution made by the first Africa-South America Summit, held in Abuja from 26 to 30 November 2006, particularly in reference to

<sup>1</sup> A/60/253 and Add.1.

paragraph 7 of the Abuja Declaration in which participants mandated the strengthening of regional cooperation on peace and security among organizations and mechanisms of which they were members, mentioning the zone as an important instrument for consolidating peace and security;

2. *Welcomes* the holding of the sixth ministerial meeting of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic, and takes note with appreciation of the adoption of the Luanda Final Declaration<sup>2</sup> as well as the Luanda Plan of Action;<sup>3</sup>

3. *Calls upon* States to cooperate in the promotion of the objectives of peace and cooperation established in resolution 41/11 and reiterated in the Luanda Final Declaration and the Luanda Plan of Action;

4. *Requests* the relevant organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system, and invites relevant partners, including international financial institutions, to render all appropriate assistance that States members of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic may seek in their joint efforts to implement the Luanda Plan of Action;

5. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Uruguay to host the seventh ministerial meeting of the States members of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic in 2009;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of its resolution 41/11 and subsequent resolutions on the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic under review and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by Member States;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

*107th plenary meeting  
13 September 2007*

<sup>2</sup> A/61/1019, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., annex I.



## General Assembly

Distr.: General  
2 October 2007

Sixty-first session  
Agenda item 68

### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/61/L.67 and Add.1)]

#### **61/295. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note* of the recommendation of the Human Rights Council contained in its resolution 1/2 of 29 June 2006,<sup>1</sup> by which the Council adopted the text of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

*Recalling* its resolution 61/178 of 20 December 2006, by which it decided to defer consideration of and action on the Declaration to allow time for further consultations thereon, and also decided to conclude its consideration before the end of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly,

*Adopts* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as contained in the annex to the present resolution.

*107th plenary meeting  
13 September 2007*

#### **Annex**

#### **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and good faith in the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by States in accordance with the Charter,

*Affirming* that indigenous peoples are equal to all other peoples, while recognizing the right of all peoples to be different, to consider themselves different, and to be respected as such,

*Affirming also* that all peoples contribute to the diversity and richness of civilizations and cultures, which constitute the common heritage of humankind,

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/61/53)*, part one, chap. II, sect. A.

*Affirming further* that all doctrines, policies and practices based on or advocating superiority of peoples or individuals on the basis of national origin or racial, religious, ethnic or cultural differences are racist, scientifically false, legally invalid, morally condemnable and socially unjust,

*Reaffirming* that indigenous peoples, in the exercise of their rights, should be free from discrimination of any kind,

*Concerned* that indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising, in particular, their right to development in accordance with their own needs and interests,

*Recognizing* the urgent need to respect and promote the inherent rights of indigenous peoples which derive from their political, economic and social structures and from their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially their rights to their lands, territories and resources,

*Recognizing also* the urgent need to respect and promote the rights of indigenous peoples affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements with States,

*Welcoming* the fact that indigenous peoples are organizing themselves for political, economic, social and cultural enhancement and in order to bring to an end all forms of discrimination and oppression wherever they occur,

*Convinced* that control by indigenous peoples over developments affecting them and their lands, territories and resources will enable them to maintain and strengthen their institutions, cultures and traditions, and to promote their development in accordance with their aspirations and needs,

*Recognizing* that respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment,

*Emphasizing* the contribution of the demilitarization of the lands and territories of indigenous peoples to peace, economic and social progress and development, understanding and friendly relations among nations and peoples of the world,

*Recognizing in particular* the right of indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child,

*Considering* that the rights affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous peoples are, in some situations, matters of international concern, interest, responsibility and character,

*Considering also* that treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements, and the relationship they represent, are the basis for a strengthened partnership between indigenous peoples and States,

*Acknowledging* that the Charter of the United Nations, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>2</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>2</sup> as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of

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<sup>2</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Action,<sup>3</sup> affirm the fundamental importance of the right to self-determination of all peoples, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

*Bearing in mind* that nothing in this Declaration may be used to deny any peoples their right to self-determination, exercised in conformity with international law,

*Convinced* that the recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples in this Declaration will enhance harmonious and cooperative relations between the State and indigenous peoples, based on principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights, non-discrimination and good faith,

*Encouraging* States to comply with and effectively implement all their obligations as they apply to indigenous peoples under international instruments, in particular those related to human rights, in consultation and cooperation with the peoples concerned,

*Emphasizing* that the United Nations has an important and continuing role to play in promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples,

*Believing* that this Declaration is a further important step forward for the recognition, promotion and protection of the rights and freedoms of indigenous peoples and in the development of relevant activities of the United Nations system in this field,

*Recognizing and reaffirming* that indigenous individuals are entitled without discrimination to all human rights recognized in international law, and that indigenous peoples possess collective rights which are indispensable for their existence, well-being and integral development as peoples,

*Recognizing* that the situation of indigenous peoples varies from region to region and from country to country and that the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical and cultural backgrounds should be taken into consideration,

*Solemnly proclaims* the following United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a standard of achievement to be pursued in a spirit of partnership and mutual respect:

#### *Article 1*

Indigenous peoples have the right to the full enjoyment, as a collective or as individuals, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>4</sup> and international human rights law.

#### *Article 2*

Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.

<sup>3</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

*Article 3*

Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

*Article 4*

Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.

*Article 5*

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State.

*Article 6*

Every indigenous individual has the right to a nationality.

*Article 7*

1. Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person.

2. Indigenous peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group.

*Article 8*

1. Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of their culture.

2. States shall provide effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for:

(a) Any action which has the aim or effect of depriving them of their integrity as distinct peoples, or of their cultural values or ethnic identities;

(b) Any action which has the aim or effect of dispossessing them of their lands, territories or resources;

(c) Any form of forced population transfer which has the aim or effect of violating or undermining any of their rights;

(d) Any form of forced assimilation or integration;

(e) Any form of propaganda designed to promote or incite racial or ethnic discrimination directed against them.

*Article 9*

Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right to belong to an indigenous community or nation, in accordance with the traditions and customs of the

community or nation concerned. No discrimination of any kind may arise from the exercise of such a right.

#### *Article 10*

Indigenous peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories. No relocation shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned and after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return.

#### *Article 11*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artefacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature.

2. States shall provide redress through effective mechanisms, which may include restitution, developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples, with respect to their cultural, intellectual, religious and spiritual property taken without their free, prior and informed consent or in violation of their laws, traditions and customs.

#### *Article 12*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to manifest, practise, develop and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies; the right to maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to their religious and cultural sites; the right to the use and control of their ceremonial objects; and the right to the repatriation of their human remains.

2. States shall seek to enable the access and/or repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains in their possession through fair, transparent and effective mechanisms developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned.

#### *Article 13*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons.

2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that this right is protected and also to ensure that indigenous peoples can understand and be understood in political, legal and administrative proceedings, where necessary through the provision of interpretation or by other appropriate means.

#### *Article 14*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.

2. Indigenous individuals, particularly children, have the right to all levels and forms of education of the State without discrimination.

3. States shall, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, take effective measures, in order for indigenous individuals, particularly children, including those living outside their communities, to have access, when possible, to an education in their own culture and provided in their own language.

*Article 15*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.

2. States shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

*Article 16*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media without discrimination.

2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that State-owned media duly reflect indigenous cultural diversity. States, without prejudice to ensuring full freedom of expression, should encourage privately owned media to adequately reflect indigenous cultural diversity.

*Article 17*

1. Indigenous individuals and peoples have the right to enjoy fully all rights established under applicable international and domestic labour law.

2. States shall in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples take specific measures to protect indigenous children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, taking into account their special vulnerability and the importance of education for their empowerment.

3. Indigenous individuals have the right not to be subjected to any discriminatory conditions of labour and, inter alia, employment or salary.

*Article 18*

Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision-making institutions.

*Article 19*

States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.

*Article 20*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities.
2. Indigenous peoples deprived of their means of subsistence and development are entitled to just and fair redress.

*Article 21*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.
2. States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

*Article 22*

1. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration.
2. States shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

*Article 23*

Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions.

*Article 24*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to their traditional medicines and to maintain their health practices, including the conservation of their vital medicinal plants, animals and minerals. Indigenous individuals also have the right to access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services.
2. Indigenous individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. States shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right.

*Article 25*

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

*Article 26*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.

2. Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.

3. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.

*Article 27*

States shall establish and implement, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, a fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent process, giving due recognition to indigenous peoples' laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to their lands, territories and resources, including those which were traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. Indigenous peoples shall have the right to participate in this process.

*Article 28*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to redress, by means that can include restitution or, when this is not possible, just, fair and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used, and which have been confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without their free, prior and informed consent.

2. Unless otherwise freely agreed upon by the peoples concerned, compensation shall take the form of lands, territories and resources equal in quality, size and legal status or of monetary compensation or other appropriate redress.

*Article 29*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resources. States shall establish and implement assistance programmes for indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection, without discrimination.

2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that no storage or disposal of hazardous materials shall take place in the lands or territories of indigenous peoples without their free, prior and informed consent.

3. States shall also take effective measures to ensure, as needed, that programmes for monitoring, maintaining and restoring the health of indigenous peoples, as developed and implemented by the peoples affected by such materials, are duly implemented.

*Article 30*

1. Military activities shall not take place in the lands or territories of indigenous peoples, unless justified by a relevant public interest or otherwise freely agreed with or requested by the indigenous peoples concerned.
2. States shall undertake effective consultations with the indigenous peoples concerned, through appropriate procedures and in particular through their representative institutions, prior to using their lands or territories for military activities.

*Article 31*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts. They also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.
2. In conjunction with indigenous peoples, States shall take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights.

*Article 32*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources.
2. States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources.
3. States shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impact.

*Article 33*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own identity or membership in accordance with their customs and traditions. This does not impair the right of indigenous individuals to obtain citizenship of the States in which they live.
2. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine the structures and to select the membership of their institutions in accordance with their own procedures.

*Article 34*

Indigenous peoples have the right to promote, develop and maintain their institutional structures and their distinctive customs, spirituality, traditions, procedures, practices and, in the cases where they exist, juridical systems or customs, in accordance with international human rights standards.

*Article 35*

Indigenous peoples have the right to determine the responsibilities of individuals to their communities.

*Article 36*

1. Indigenous peoples, in particular those divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic and social purposes, with their own members as well as other peoples across borders.

2. States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, shall take effective measures to facilitate the exercise and ensure the implementation of this right.

*Article 37*

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the recognition, observance and enforcement of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements concluded with States or their successors and to have States honour and respect such treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.

2. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as diminishing or eliminating the rights of indigenous peoples contained in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.

*Article 38*

States in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, shall take the appropriate measures, including legislative measures, to achieve the ends of this Declaration.

*Article 39*

Indigenous peoples have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from States and through international cooperation, for the enjoyment of the rights contained in this Declaration.

*Article 40*

Indigenous peoples have the right to access to and prompt decision through just and fair procedures for the resolution of conflicts and disputes with States or other parties, as well as to effective remedies for all infringements of their individual and collective rights. Such a decision shall give due consideration to the customs, traditions, rules and legal systems of the indigenous peoples concerned and international human rights.

*Article 41*

The organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations shall contribute to the full realization of the provisions of this Declaration through the mobilization, inter alia, of financial cooperation and technical assistance. Ways and means of ensuring participation of indigenous peoples on issues affecting them shall be established.

*Article 42*

The United Nations, its bodies, including the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and specialized agencies, including at the country level, and States shall promote respect for and full application of the provisions of this Declaration and follow up the effectiveness of this Declaration.

*Article 43*

The rights recognized herein constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world.

*Article 44*

All the rights and freedoms recognized herein are equally guaranteed to male and female indigenous individuals.

*Article 45*

Nothing in this Declaration may be construed as diminishing or extinguishing the rights indigenous peoples have now or may acquire in the future.

*Article 46*

1. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, people, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act contrary to the Charter of the United Nations or construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States.

2. In the exercise of the rights enunciated in the present Declaration, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all shall be respected. The exercise of the rights set forth in this Declaration shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law and in accordance with international human rights obligations. Any such limitations shall be non-discriminatory and strictly necessary solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for meeting the just and most compelling requirements of a democratic society.

3. The provisions set forth in this Declaration shall be interpreted in accordance with the principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights, equality, non-discrimination, good governance and good faith.



## General Assembly

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Sixty-first session  
Agenda item 108 (a)

### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

*[without reference to a Main Committee (A/61/L.70 and Add.1)]*

#### **61/296. Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as its resolutions 55/218 of 21 December 2000, 56/48 of 7 December 2001, 57/48 of 21 November 2002 and 59/213 of 20 December 2004,

*Recalling also* the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted at the meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling further* the decisions and declarations adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at all its ordinary and extraordinary sessions, held in Durban, South Africa, on 9 and 10 July 2002,<sup>3</sup> in Maputo from 10 to 12 July 2003,<sup>4</sup> in Addis Ababa from 6 to 8 July 2004,<sup>5</sup> in Abuja on 30 and 31 January 2005,<sup>6</sup> in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 4 and 5 July 2005,<sup>7</sup> in Khartoum on 23 and 24 January 2006,<sup>8</sup> and in Banjul on 1 and 2 July 2006,<sup>9</sup>

*Welcoming* the adoption of the African Union Non-Aggression and Common Defence Pact at the fourth ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union,<sup>6</sup> as an instrument to reinforce cooperation among States members of the African

<sup>1</sup> A/61/256 and Add.1.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2158, No. 37733.

<sup>3</sup> See A/57/744, annex III.

<sup>4</sup> See A/58/626, annex I.

<sup>5</sup> See African Union, documents Assembly/AU/Dec.33–54 (III) and Assembly/AU/Decl.12 & 13 (III).

<sup>6</sup> See African Union, documents Assembly/AU/Dec.55–72 (IV) and Assembly/AU/Dec.1–2 (IV).

<sup>7</sup> See African Union, documents Assembly/AU/Dec.73–90 (V), Assembly/AU/Dec.1–3 (V) and Assembly/AU/Resolution 1 (V).

<sup>8</sup> See African Union, documents Assembly/AU/Dec. 91–110 (VI), Assembly/AU/Dec.1–3 (VI) and Assembly/AU/Recommendations (VI).

<sup>9</sup> See African Union, documents Assembly/AU/Dec. 111–132 (VII) and Assembly/AU/Decl.1–4 (VII).

Union in the areas of defence and security and that can in particular contribute to the work of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and its cooperation with the United Nations,

*Welcoming also* the adoption of the framework for the ten-year capacity-building programme for the African Union set out in the declaration on enhancing United Nations-African Union cooperation, signed in Addis Ababa on 16 November 2006 by the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission,<sup>10</sup> which highlights the key areas for cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations, namely institution-building, human resources development, youth unemployment, financial management, peace and security issues, political, legal, social, economic, cultural and human development and food security and environmental protection, as an important step to further enhance the level of cooperation between the two organizations,

*Acknowledging* the decision of the African Union Peace and Security Council at its 68th meeting, held on 14 December 2006, on the establishment of a coordination and consultation mechanism between the African Union Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council, taking note of discussions between the United Nations Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council held in June 2007, and welcoming the agreement to hold joint meetings at least once a year,<sup>11</sup>

*Welcoming*, while taking into account the role of the General Assembly, the statements by the President of the Security Council of 19 November 2004 on the institutional relationship with the African Union<sup>12</sup> and of 28 March 2007 on the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union, in the maintenance of international peace and security,<sup>13</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development, contained in its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002, and its resolutions 57/7 of 4 November 2002, 58/233 of 23 December 2003, 59/254 of 23 December 2004, 60/222 of 23 December 2005 and 61/229 of 22 December 2006 on the New Partnership,

*Stressing* the urgent need to address the plight of refugees and internally displaced persons in Africa,

*Stressing also* the need for extending the scope of cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in the area of combating illegal exploitation of natural resources in Africa,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the effective, coordinated and integrated implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>14</sup> the Doha Development Agenda,<sup>15</sup> the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>16</sup> the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit

<sup>10</sup> A/61/630, annex.

<sup>11</sup> See S/2007/386, annex.

<sup>12</sup> S/PRST/2004/44; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2004–31 July 2005*.

<sup>13</sup> S/PRST/2007/7; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2006–31 July 2007*.

<sup>14</sup> See resolution 55/2.

<sup>15</sup> See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

<sup>16</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")<sup>17</sup> and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>18</sup>

*Welcoming* the efforts to enhance cooperation within the framework of a partnership between the peace and security structures of the United Nations and the African Union in the realm of conflict prevention and resolution, crisis management, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding in Africa,

*Acknowledging* the significant contribution of the 1999 Algiers Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, and noting the centrality of international partnership and cooperation between the African Union, the relevant United Nations organs and the wider international community in the global fight against terrorism,

*Acknowledging also* the contribution of the United Nations Liaison Office in strengthening coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, as well as the need to consolidate it so as to enhance its performance,

*Convinced* that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union will contribute to the advancement of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the development of Africa,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>1</sup>
2. *Stresses* the need for closer cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the African Union, in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement as well as other relevant memorandums of understanding between the two organizations, particularly in the implementation of the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>14</sup> and the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>18</sup> and as regards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, at the national, subregional and regional levels;
3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to request all relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to intensify their efforts to support cooperation with the African Union, including through the implementation of the protocols to the Constitutive Act of the African Union<sup>2</sup> and the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community,<sup>19</sup> and to assist in harmonizing the programmes of the African Union with those of the African regional economic communities with a view to enhancing regional economic cooperation and integration;
4. *Also invites* the Secretary-General to request the United Nations system to enhance its support for the Commission of the African Union in the implementation of its Strategic Plan (2004–2007);
5. *Requests* the United Nations system, while acknowledging its primary role in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security, to intensify its assistance to the African Union, as appropriate, in strengthening the

<sup>17</sup> Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>18</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>19</sup> A/46/651, annex.

institutional and operational capacity of its Peace and Security Council and in coordinating with other international partners when needed, in particular in the following areas:

- (a) Development of its early warning system, including the Situation Room of the Peace and Security Directorate;
- (b) Training of civilian and military personnel, including a staff exchange programme;
- (c) Regular and continued exchange and coordination of information, including between the early warning systems and mediation mechanisms of the two organizations;
- (d) Peace support missions of the African Union in its various member States, in particular in the area of communication and other related logistical support;
- (e) Capacity-building for peacebuilding before and after the cessation of hostilities on the continent;
- (f) Support for the Peace and Security Council in taking humanitarian action on the continent in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council;
- (g) The full establishment of the African standby force and the military staff committee;
- (h) Enhancement of the institutional capacity of regional peace support training centres for States members of the African Union;
- (i) Cooperation between the United Nations Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to support the African Union and its member States in their efforts to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

7. *Calls for* the implementation of the declaration on enhancing United Nations-African Union cooperation: framework for the ten-year capacity-building programme for the African Union,<sup>10</sup> and in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Secretariat and to implement its mandate with respect to meeting the special needs of Africa;

8. *Recognizes* the need for sustainable and predictable financing and operational and logistical support for African Union peacekeeping operations and the crucial role the United Nations has to play with the international community to work towards a solution quickly, and to that end urges the United Nations to encourage donor countries, in consultation with the African Union, to contribute to adequate funding, training and logistical support for African countries in their efforts to enhance their peacekeeping capabilities, with a view to enabling those countries to participate actively in peacekeeping operations within the framework of the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council and the framework of the United Nations, and looks forward to the report of the Secretary-General on these issues;

9. *Stresses* the urgent need for the United Nations and the African Union to develop close cooperation and concrete programmes aimed at addressing the

problems posed by illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons and anti-personnel mines, within the framework of the relevant declarations and resolutions adopted by the two organizations;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, the African Union and the international community to intensify their cooperation in the global fight against terrorism through the implementation of the relevant international and regional treaties and protocols and, in particular, the African Plan of Action adopted in Algiers on 14 September 2002, as well as their support for the operation of the African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism, inaugurated in Algiers in October 2004;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to intensify its efforts, in collaboration with the African Union, in combating illegal exploitation of natural resources, particularly in conflict areas, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and the African Union;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations system to effectively support the efforts of the African Union by urging the international community to strive for the successful and timely completion of the Doha round of trade negotiations, including negotiations aimed at substantial improvements in areas such as trade-related measures, including market access and regional economic integration, to promote sustainable growth in Africa;

13. *Invites* the United Nations system to enhance its support for African countries in their efforts to implement the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;<sup>17</sup>

14. *Encourages* the United Nations to take special measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication through debt cancellation, enhanced official development assistance, increases in flows of foreign direct investment and transfers of affordable and appropriate technology;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to accelerate the implementation of the Plan of Action contained in the document entitled "A world fit for children", adopted on 10 May 2002 at the special session of the General Assembly on children,<sup>20</sup> and to provide assistance, as appropriate, to the African Union and its member States in this regard;

16. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the African Union to develop a coherent and effective strategy, including through joint programmes and activities, for the promotion and protection of human rights in Africa, within the framework of the implementation of regional and international treaties, resolutions and plans of action adopted by the two organizations;

17. *Urges* the United Nations system to increase its support for Africa in the implementation of the declaration of the extraordinary summit meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other related infectious diseases, held in Abuja in April 2001,<sup>21</sup> and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS<sup>22</sup> so as to arrest the spread of these diseases, inter alia, through sound capacity-building in human resources;

<sup>20</sup> See resolution S-27/2.

<sup>21</sup> Organization of African Unity, document OAU/SPS/ABUJA/3.

<sup>22</sup> Resolution S-26/2, annex.

18. *Also urges* the United Nations system to continue to implement resolution 58/149 of 22 December 2003 on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa, and effectively to support African countries in their effort to incorporate the problems of refugees into national and regional development plans;

19. *Requests* the United Nations system to cooperate with the African Union and its member States in the implementation of appropriate policies for the promotion of the culture of democracy, good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and the strengthening of democratic institutions which will enhance the popular participation of the peoples of the continent in these issues, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development;<sup>23</sup>

20. *Urges* the Secretary-General to encourage the United Nations system to work towards ensuring the effective and equitable representation of African men and women at senior and policy levels at the respective headquarters of its organizations and in their regional fields of operation;

21. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, working in collaboration, to review every two years the progress made in the cooperation between the two organizations, and requests the Secretary-General to include the results of the review in his next report;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*109th plenary meeting  
17 September 2007*

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<sup>23</sup> A/57/304, annex.